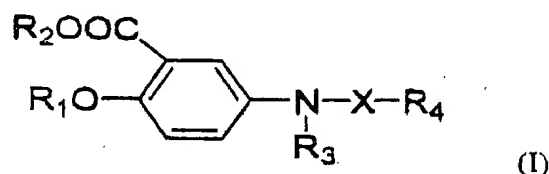


What Is Claimed Is:

Subst A1
1. A compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein,

X is CO, SO₂ or (CH₂)_n (where n is an integer of 1 to 5, inclusive);

R₁ is hydrogen, alkyl or alkanoyl;

R₂ is hydrogen or alkyl;

R₃ is hydrogen or an acetoxy group; and

R₄ is phenyl group which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more of the group consisting of nitro, halogen, haloalkyl, and C₁-C₃ alkoxy; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound according to Claim 1, wherein X is CO, SO₂ or (CH₂)_n (where n is an integer of 1 - 5, inclusive); R₁ is hydrogen, C₁-C₃ alkyl or C₂-C₃ alkanoyl; R₂ is hydrogen or C₁-C₃ alkyl; R₃ is hydrogen or an acetoxy group; and R₄ is phenyl group which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more selected from the group consisting of nitro, halogen, haloalkyl, and C₁-C₃ alkoxy; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

3. A compound according to Claim 1, wherein X is CO, SO₂ or (CH₂)_n (where n = 1,2,3); R₁ is hydrogen, C₁-C₃ alkyl or C₂-C₃ alkanoyl; R₂ is hydrogen or C₁-C₃ alkyl; R₃ is hydrogen or an acetoxy group; R₄ is phenyl group which is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more selected from the group consisting of nitro, halogen, halo(C₁-C₃)alkyl and C₁-C₃ alkoxy; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

4. A compound according to Claim 1, which is one selected from the group consisting of
 5-benzylaminosalicylic acid,
 5-(4-nitrobenzyl)aminosalicylic acid,
 (5-(4-chlorobenzyl)aminosalicylic acid,
 (5-(4-trifluoromethylbenzyl)aminosalicylic acid,
 (5-(4-fluorobenzyl)aminosalicylic acid,
 5-(4-methoxybenzyl)aminosalicylic acid,
 5-(pentafluorobenzyl)aminosalicylic acid,
 5-(4-nitrobenzyl)amino-2-hydroxy ethylbenzoate,

5-(4-nitrobenzyl)-*N*-acetylamino-2-hydroxy ethylbenzoate,
5-(4-nitrobenzyl)-*N*-acetylamino-2-acetoxy ethylbenzoate,
5-(4-nitrobenzoyl)aminosalicylic acid,
5-(4-nitrobenzenesulfonyl)aminosalicylic acid,
5-[2-(4-nitrophenyl)-ethyl]aminosalicylic acid, and
5-[3-(4-nitrophenyl)-*n*-propyl]aminosalicylic acid, or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

5. A method for protecting central neurons from acute or chronic injuries to central nervous system(CNS), comprising administering to a patient or a mammal suffering such CNS injuries a therapeutically appropriate amount of a neuroprotective compound of Claim 1.

6. A method according to Claim 5, wherein said CNS injuries result from ischemia, hypoxia, hypoglycemia, traumatic brain injury, traumatic spinal cord injury, epilepsy, Huntington's disease, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, or Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

7. A method according to Claim 5, wherein said CNS injuries are caused by activation of N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) glutamate receptors, entry and accumulation of Zn^{2+} , or free radicals.

8. A method according to Claim 3, wherein said compound attenuates NMDA neurotoxicity, Zn^{2+} neurotoxicity, and blocks free radical neurotoxicity as a direct antioxidant.

9. A method for treating or preventing neurological diseases linked to NMDA neurotoxicity, Zn^{2+} neurotoxicity or oxidative stress, comprising administering to a patient or a mammal suffering from such diseases a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of Claim 1.